

**SECRET***W/ Crack***ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET****SUBJECT:** (Optional)**FROM**Acting Director, Foreign Broadcast  
Information Service**EXTENSION****NO.**

FBIS-0369/86

**DATE**

12 November 1986

**TO:** (Officer designation, room number, and  
building)**DATE****RECEIVED****FORWARDED****OFFICER'S  
INITIALS****COMMENTS** (Number each comment to show from whom  
to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)1. Deputy Director for  
Science and Technology  
Room 6E45, Headquarters

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FYI. I think [ ] will be able successfully to keep FBIS distinct in the Mayor's mind from the U.S. Army, but it certainly is a good example of political insensitivity on the Army's part. We concur in [ ] action and will hope that the affair is settled without getting too many feathers ruffled.

**SECRET**

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**S E C R E T 100631Z NOV 86 STAFF**

**CITE FBIS/OKINAWA 14912**

**TO: FBIS.**

**SUBJECT: US ARMY MICROWAVE TOWER**

**REF: FBIS OKINAWA 14675 ET AL.**

25X1

1. ON 10 NOVEMBER, A MR. J. THOMPSON OF THE US ARMY SIGNAL BATTALION AND A SERGEANT FROM THE SAME UNIT APPEARED AT BUREAU OPERATIONS SITE WITH EARTH MOVING EQUIPMENT AND SOME JAPANESE CONTRACT EMPLOYEES. BY THE TIME WE DISCOVERED WHAT WAS HAPPENING, EQUIPMENT WAS MOVED TO AREA WHERE ARMY MICROWAVE TOWER IS TO BE CONSTRUCTED AND GROUP HAD BEGUN TO CLEAR LAND.

2. US ARMY HAS ON TWO RECENT OCCASIONS BEGUN LARGE PROJECTS ON MILITARY BASES NEAR US WITHOUT FIRST CLEARING WITH JAPANESE DEFENSE FACILITIES ADMINISTRATION AGENCY (DFAA), WHICH IN TURN CLEARS WITH LOCAL JAPANESE AUTHORITIES. SUCH CLEARANCE IS ESSENTIAL HERE. WE HAD WORD THAT ARMY HAD NOT YET OBTAINED CONCURRENCE OF MAYOR OF YOMITAN FOR TOWER CONSTRUCTION.

3. AS SOON AS WE DISCOVERED WHAT WAS HAPPENING AT MICROWAVE ANTENNA CONSTRUCTION SITE, I PHONED LIEUTENANT COLONEL TRAGAKIS OF OKINAWA AREA COORDINATION'S OFFICE (US FORCES JAPAN UNIT HERE) AND TRAGAKIS IMMEDIATELY PHONED SENIOR ARMY COMMANDER AND HAD WORK STOPPED. HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO FIND OUT WHO GAVE ORDER TO GO AHEAD WITH LAND CLEARING, BUT ARMY HAD NOT CLEARED PROJECT WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES THROUGH DFAA. AT ANY RATE, WORK HAS STOPPED AND TRAGAKIS AND ARMY COMMANDER HAVE ASSURED ME NOTHING WILL BE DONE UNTIL PROJECT HAS BEEN CLEARED THROUGH LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

4. THIS IS PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TIME HERE, AS GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN IS IN FULL SWING AND OPPOSITION CANDIDATE, WHO OPPOSED US MILITARY PRESENCE HERE, IS LOOKING FOR ISSUES LIKE THIS TO EXPLOIT. OPPOSITION PRESS MADE MUCH OF TWO RECENT INCIDENTS ARMY WAS INVOLVED IN; ONE WAS ATTEMPT TO CUT DOWN SUGARCANE ON PARTS OF TORII STATION AND OTHER WAS ATTEMPT TO USE OLD YOMITAN AIRSTRIP

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FOR TRAINING FOR SPECIAL FORCES; IN BOTH CASES LOCAL AUTHORITIES HAD  
NOT BEEN INFORMED AND IN BOTH CASES MAYOR OF YOMITAN OBJECTED  
STRENUOUSLY. THERE WAS NO PRESS COVERAGE OF WHAT WENT ON AT BUREAU  
TODAY AND HOPEFULLY THIS LATEST US ARMY FAILURE TO FOLLOW NORMAL  
PROCEDURES WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES WENT UNNOTICED.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L 120528Z NOV 86 STAFF

CITE FBIS/OKINAWA 14915

TO: FBIS.

SUBJECT: US ARMY MICROWAVE TOWER

REF: FBIS/OKINAWA 14912

25X1

1. EARTH-MOVING EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM SITE, AND US ARMY COMMANDER ON OKINAWA, COLONEL GRIFFIN, HAS TOLD ME JAPANESE CONTRACTOR ON HIS OWN BEGAN CLEARING OPERATION. IN CHECKING FURTHER, HAVE DISCOVERED US ARMY HAS NOT YET INFORMED JAPANESE LOCAL AUTHORITY, THAT IS, MAYOR OF YOMITAN, THAT IT HAS SIGNED CONTRACT TO CONSTRUCT 130-FOOT MICROWAVE TOWER ON BASE WITHIN MAYOR'S JURISDICTION. TOWER IS TO BE CONSTRUCTED ON SENAHA COMMUNICATIONS STATION, WHICH IS NAME OF BASE FOR OUR OPERATIONS AND WHICH IS ACTUALLY DESIGNATED AIR FORCE BASE. TECHNICALLY, US FORCES CAN CONSTRUCT WHATEVER THEY WISH ON THEIR BASES, PROVIDED NEW FACILITIES CONFORM TO MISSION OF BASES. SO, TECHNICALLY, US ARMY COULD BUILD TOWER WITHOUT INFORMING JAPANESE, BUT I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT WOULD BE SMART. 130-FOOT TOWER WILL BE DOMINANT FEATURE ON BOLO POINT AND WILL BE VISIBLE FOR MILES AROUND. BOLO POINT IS BEING DEVELOPED BY JAPANESE AS RECREATIONAL AREA, AND THERE ARE REPORTS THAT A LUXURY HOTEL IS TO BE CONSTRUCTED NEARBY SOON.

2. BEST PROCEDURE FOR US ARMY UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD BE TO INFORM JAPANESE DEFENSE FACILITIES ADMINISTRATION AGENCY, WHICH IN TURN WOULD INFORM MAYOR OF YOMITAN. UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES, MAYOR MIGHT WELL OBJECT TO CONSTRUCTION OF TOWER. IF HE AGREES TO CONSTRUCTION OR AT LEAST AGREES NOT TO JOIN OPPOSITION, THEN CONSTRUCTION COULD PROBABLY GO AHEAD. IF MAYOR OPPOSES CONSTRUCTION, THERE WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY BE TROUBLE, AND THAT TROUBLE WOULD SPILL OVER ONTO FBIS AS MAIN OCCUPANT OF BASE.

3. HAVE DISCUSSED ALL THIS WITH LT COL. CHRIS TRAGAKIS, OUR CONTACT IN US MILITARY'S OKINAWA AREA COORDINATORY'S OFFICE. TRAGAKIS AGREES WITH ME THAT US ARMY SHOULD OBTAIN MAYOR'S APPROVAL BEFORE

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GOING AHEAD WITH CONSTRUCTION OF TOWER. TRAGAKIS FEELS THAT UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES MAYOR WOULD PROBABLY OPPOSE CONSTRUCTION OF TOWER.

4. I HAVE MEETING WITH COLONEL GRIFFIN ON 13 NOVEMBER TO DISCUSS CONSTRUCTION OF TOWER. WILL POINT OUT TO GRIFFIN THAT MY INTEREST IS TO AVOID UNDUE LOCAL ATTENTION BEING FOCUSED ON BUREAU. WILL SUGGEST, AS DIPLOMATICALLY AS I CAN, THAT HE MIGHT WANT TO FOLLOW PROCEDURE OF INFORMING DFAA WHICH WOULD INFO A LOCAL AUTHORITY. AS REPORTED IN REF, ARMY HAS RUN AFOUL OF THIS PROCEDURE ON TWO RECENT OCCASIONS, SO GRIFFIN WILL BE SENSITIVE ON THIS SUBJECT. PLAN TO TREAD LIGHTLY, BUT DO PLAN TO MAKE POINT THAT CONSTRUCTING LARGE TOWER IN MAYOR'S CONSTITUENCY WITHOUT FIRST INFORMING MAYOR IS RISKY BUSINESS. TRAGAKIS WILL PROBABLY ATTEND MEETING WITH [REDACTED] WILL REPORT ON MEETING.

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[REDACTED]  
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